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## HEART OF NEW ENGLAND



# Heart of New England

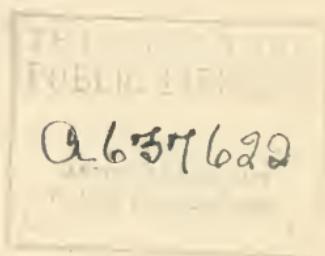
By  
Abbie Farwell Brown



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1920

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TO  
The Memory of my Ancestor  
Mary Allerton Cushman  
Last of the Mayflower Pilgrims



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## CONTENTS

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| EAST WIND                      | 2  |
| NAMES                          | 3  |
| COMFORTERS                     | 6  |
| PILGRIM MOTHERS                | 9  |
| CROSS-CURRENTS                 | 11 |
| SAVAGES                        | 14 |
| PIRATE TREASURE                | 16 |
| THE WALL                       | 19 |
| HAMPTON TOWN                   | 22 |
| THE OLD GARDEN                 | 24 |
| GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE            | 25 |
| GRANDMOTHER'S GARDEN           | 27 |
| THE FRIGHTENED PATH            | 28 |
| DEVIL'S GOLD: A HAMPTON LEGEND | 29 |
| THE HAUNTED HOUSE              | 32 |
| ROSE PERENNIAL                 | 34 |
| SCARECROW                      | 37 |
| INSPIRATION                    | 39 |
| A WASTED MORNING               | 40 |
| CIPHERS                        | 42 |
| PINE MUSIC                     | 44 |
| MAIDS AND MUSHROOMS            | 45 |
| IN THE DARK                    | 47 |
| GARDEN THOUGHTS                | 48 |

## CONTENTS

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| THE PASSER-BY                    | 49  |
| FROST                            | 51  |
| WINTER SONG                      | 53  |
| TANAGER                          | 54  |
| SONG                             | 56  |
| THE KNOCK                        | 57  |
| AN OLD-WORLD CONVENT GARDEN      | 59  |
| A SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY IN BRITTANY | 61  |
| THE BLAZED TRAIL                 | 64  |
| BUT THERE ARE WINGS              | 66  |
| SAFE?                            | 67  |
| THE UP-HILL STREET               | 68  |
| CITY SMOKE                       | 71  |
| GREEN CROSSES                    | 73  |
| THE MYSTIC CIRCLE                | 76  |
| SONG OF THE BOOKWORM             | 80  |
| THE BOOKS I OUGHT TO READ        | 82  |
| JOHN TOWNSEND TROWBRIDGE         | 83  |
| THE JOY-VENDER                   | 85  |
| THE SPARROW                      | 88  |
| SYLVIA                           | 90  |
| THE PLUME                        | 91  |
| THE WOODSY ONES                  | 93  |
| THE WEE KNITTER                  | 94  |
| A CHARM SAID UNDER AN OAK        | 96  |
| FAIRY RING                       | 98  |
| DANGEROUS PASSING                | 99  |
| THE DRYAD                        | 101 |

## CONTENTS

|                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| FAIRY WINE                          | 103 |
| WEBS                                | 104 |
| THE FAIRY FORT                      | 105 |
| <hr/>                               |     |
| PEACE — WITH A SWORD                | 109 |
| THE CRY                             | 112 |
| CRUSADERS                           | 114 |
| THE KNIGHTS                         | 115 |
| FROM THE CANTEEN                    | 117 |
| CRIPPLED SOLDIER                    | 119 |
| THE FLAG TRIUMPHANT                 | 121 |
| THREE GOLDEN STARS                  | 123 |
| THE SPRING OF THE YEAR              | 126 |
| PRAYER FOR AMERICA                  | 128 |
| <hr/>                               |     |
| THE ROCK OF LIBERTY; A PILGRIM ODE. |     |
| 1620-1920                           | 131 |



## HEART OF NEW ENGLAND

## EAST WIND

*I dream of a languorous, tideless shore,  
Of azure light in magic caves;  
Of heathery hills with summits hoar,  
That wade knee-deep in northern waves;  
Of rainbow sails like butterflies  
That flutter to an Old World quay;  
Of where a buried city lies  
Beneath the sands of Brittany.*

*Nay! But my own New England coast,  
Pungent with wild rose, pine, and bay;  
Brown marsh, white sand, gray rocks that board  
The fiercest surf, the wildest spray!  
Ho! For me,  
Where the white, white sculls go flashing to the sea;  
And the sea wind is the east wind, as the sea wind  
ought to be!*

*I dream of a castle-covered height;  
Of gardens with eternal flowers,  
And mossy fountains gleaming white;  
Of lemon groves and myrtle bower;  
Of fairy glens and haunted halls,  
Where mystery walks to and fro;  
Of palaces on gay canals;  
Of English green, and Alpenglow.*

*Nay! But New England's apple trees,  
Her homely houses, square and plain,  
The simple gardens loved of bees,  
The maple groves, the firs of Maine!  
Ho! For me,  
Where the spring comes slowly, like a play to see;  
And the sea wind is the east wind, as the sea wind  
ought to be!*

# Heart of New England

. . .

## NAMES

FROM Somerset and Devon,  
From Kent and Lincolnshire,  
The younger sons came sailing  
With hearts of steel and fire.

From leafy lane and valley,  
Fair glebe and ancient wood,  
The counties of old England  
Poured forth their warmest blood.

Out of the gray-walled cities,  
Away from the castled towns,  
Corners of thatch and roses,  
Heathery combes and downs,

With neither crown nor penny,  
But an iron will they came,  
Heirs of an old tradition  
And a good old English name.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

A brooding silence met them  
On a nameless, savage shore;  
But they called the wild — “New England,”  
For the sake of the blood they bore.

“*Plymouth, Exeter, Bristol,  
Boston, Windsor, Wells.*”

Beloved names of England  
Rang in their hearts like bells.

They named their rocky farmlands,  
Their hamlets by the sea,  
For the mother-towns that bred them  
In racial loyalty.

“*Cambridge, Hartford, Gloucester,  
Hampton, Norwich, Stowe.*”

The younger sons looked backward  
And sealed their sonship so.

The old blood thrills in answer,  
As centuries go by,  
To names that meant a challenge,  
A signal, or a sigh.

*NAMES*

Now over friendly waters  
The old towns, each to each,  
Call with the kinship in a name;  
One race, one truth, one speech.

## COMFORTERS

RAW April came. The snow was melting fast  
From the bleak Plymouth hills. The *May-*  
*flower*,  
Who had been fretting at her anchor-chains  
Through the unfriendly weeks of rain and  
snow,  
Flew like a homing pigeon out to sea,  
With treacherous captain and a sulky crew.  
But not one of the Faithful was returning.  
Iron of purpose, worn but undismayed  
By the fell winter, on a little hill  
That bedded half the flock in a long sleep,  
Pale Pilgrims watched the shining sails grow  
dim,  
With straining vision. So, the final link  
With home was severed now! The happy  
ship  
Was homeward bound to the belovèd land,  
Where soon the may would blossom in the  
hedges

## *COMFORTERS*

Of Kent and Suffolk; while in Lincolnshire  
The friendly robin sang by flooding tides.  
“Never again to see the green of England  
Or hear that song!” they murmured. “Never  
again!

For us sad exiles on a barren shore,  
Sorrow and toil till death, uncomforted.  
Yet the Lord’s will be done!”

Running there came  
A little maid with treasure-trove in hand,  
A flushed and fury blossom. “Look!” she  
cried,  
“The first pink posy peeping through the  
snow  
Upon a sunny hillside in the wood!  
Is it not like the precious English may,  
But sweeter still?” “Behold, the mayflower!”  
The Pilgrims whispered. “God has sent to us  
A messenger of homeland and the spring!”  
The wistful shadow faded from their eyes,  
Their set lips softened.

Came a little lad,  
Leaping and laughing. “I have heard a song!

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

A redbreast bubbling in the willow-tree  
Caroled ‘Cheer up! Cheer up!’ See where he  
flies  
With his bright feathers!” Eagerly they  
peered,  
Elder and Captain, man and weary wife,  
Orphans with little faces pinched and pale.  
Forgetting now the vanished ship, they cried—  
“The robin and the mayflower are here!  
Now in New England shall we be at home,  
God wills it so.” Thereon they shyly smiled,  
Straightened bent shoulders, and with lifted  
hearts  
Slowly departed; thinking more than speak-  
ing,  
In the old English fashion.

## PILGRIM MOTHERS

Now thank God for the women  
Who dared the perilous sea  
With our adventurous ancestors,  
To bear them company!

They sailed, they knew not whither,  
They came, nor questioned why,  
But that the men-folk whom they loved  
Without their care would die.

Babes newly born they carried,  
And bairns with wavering feet;  
But never a cow was there for milk,  
And never a stove for heat.

Through icy waves they landed,  
They washed in frozen streams;  
They shivered through the nights of dread  
With horror in their dreams.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Through toil and want and danger  
High-hearted they could wait;  
They lived and died for the commonweal,  
And mothered a nursling State.

They had no voice in meeting,  
No vote in pact or law;  
But of their flesh and blood is built  
Our strength for peace and war.

Thank God for the brave women  
Of a hard three-hundred years!  
Have they not earned a nation's trust  
Through sacrifice and tears?

## CROSS-CURRENTS

THROUGH twelve stout generations  
    New England blood I boast;  
The stubborn pastures bred them,  
    The grim, uncordial coast,

Sedate and proud old cities —  
    Loved well enough by me.  
Then how should I be yearning  
    To scour the earth and sea?

Each of my Yankee forbears  
    Wed a New England mate;  
They dwelt and did and died here,  
    Nor glimpsed a rosier fate.

My clan endured their kindred;  
    But foreigners they loathed,  
And wandering folk, and minstrels,  
    And gypsies motley-clothed.

Then why do patches please me,  
Fantastic, wild array?

Why have I vagrant fancies  
For lads from far away?

My kin were godly Churchmen —  
Or paced in elders' weeds;  
But all were grave and pious  
And hated heathen creeds.

Then why are Thor and Wotan  
To me dread forces still?  
Why does my heart go questing  
For Pan beyond the hill?

My people clutched at freedom,  
(Though others' wills they chained)  
But made the Law and kept it,  
And Beauty they restrained.

Then why am I a rebel  
To laws of rule and square?  
Why would I dream and dally,  
Or, reckless, do and dare?

O righteous, solemn Grandsires,  
O Dames, correct and mild,  
Who bred me of your virtues,  
Whence comes this changeling child?

The thirteenth generation —  
Unlucky number this! —  
My grandam loved a pirate,  
And all my faults are his.

A gallant, ruffled rover,  
With beauty-loving eye,  
He swept Colonial waters  
Of coarser, bloodier fry.

He waved his hat to Danger,  
At Law he shook his fist.  
Ah, merrily he plundered,  
He sang and fought and kissed!

Though none have found his treasure,  
And none his part would take,  
I bless that thirteenth lady  
Who chose him for my sake.

## SAVAGES

THE Heathen hailed us from the beach,  
Prayed the new gods to bless and teach.  
They worshiped us and gave us food,  
Sweet water and maize, nuts from the wood;  
Showed us safe harbor. Liquor and beads  
Got us broad acres for our needs;  
We set shrewd boundaries to the farms.  
Too generously we loaned them arms;  
Froward they grew and scorned our laws,  
They bared white fangs, unsheathed fierce  
claws.

Haunts in the wilderness they made  
To spy upon our barricade,  
Our meeting-house and granaries,  
Coveting them with cruel eyes.  
One stole a heifer from our yard;  
We hanged the whelp; they scalped our guard;  
We shot their chief and eight tall braves.  
The devils swarmed from dens and caves,

## *SAVAGES*

And burned the roofs above our heads;  
Murdered the children in their beds!  
With righteous wrath we armed for war,  
Scouring the forest near and far,  
River and lake with uncouth name,  
All the fair region once their claim,  
Killing the Redskin fiends at sight.  
At last we rid us of the blight;  
We made the savage race to cease,  
And earned a Sabbath Day of peace.  
We walled the tilth and reared this town.

O great Jehovah looking down,  
Reward our pious people still,  
Who set Thy temple on the hill.

## PIRATE TREASURE

A LADY loved a swaggering rover,  
The seven salt seas he voyaged over,  
Bragged of a hoard none could discover,  
Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

She bloomed in a mansion dull and stately,  
And as to Meeting she walked sedately,  
From the tail of her eye she liked him greatly,  
Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

Rings in his ears and a red sash wore he,  
He sang her a song and told her a story;  
“I’ll make ye Queen of the Ocean!” swore he,  
Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

She crept from bed by her sleeping sister;  
By the old gray mill he met and kissed her.  
Blue day dawned before they missed her,  
Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

## *PIRATE TREASURE*

And while they prayed her out of Meeting,  
Her wild little heart with bliss was beating,  
As seaward went the lugger fleeting,

Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

Choose in haste and repent at leisure;  
A buccaneer life is not all pleasure.  
He set her ashore with a little treasure,

Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

Off he went where waves were dashing,  
Knives were gleaming, cutlasses clashing;  
And a ship on jagged rocks went crashing.

Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

Over his bones the tides are sweeping;  
The only trace of the pirate sleeping  
Is what he left in the lady's keeping,

Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

Two hundred years is his name unspoken,  
The secret of his hoard unbroken.  
But a black-browed race wears the rover's  
token,

Hey! Jolly Roger, O.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Sea-blue eyes that gleam and glisten,  
Lips that sing — and you like to listen —  
A swaggering song; it might be this one,  
“ Hey! Jolly Roger, O!”

## THE WALL

“Something there is that does n’t love a wall”

ROBERT FROST

“NOT love a wall!”

I sit above the meadow in the glowing fall,  
Tracing the gray redoubt from square to  
square

That bounds the acres harvest-ripe and fair,  
And wonder if it’s true?

Nay! Ask the sumac and the teeming vine  
That lean upon the boulders;  
The crimsoning ivy and the wild woodbine,  
Whose eager fingers clutch the stony shoul-  
ders;

The golden-rod, the aster, and the rue.  
Ask the red squirrel with the chubby cheek  
Skipping from stone to stone  
By a quick route, his hidden hoard to seek,  
Making the little viaduct his own.

Look where the woodchuck lifts a cautious  
head

Between the rocks, close by the cabbage bed;

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

The honey-bees have built a secret hive  
In a forgotten chink;  
And there a gray cocoon is tucked away,  
Shrouding a miracle of mauve and pink  
To wait its Easter Day.  
The wall with pageantry is all alive.

And I who gaze  
On the dark border here,  
Drawn like a ribbon round the pasture-ways,  
Embroidered with the glory of the year —  
What is the wall to me?  
Has it no beauty more than eyes can see?  
Lo, I remember how in days of old  
A grandsire toiled with weariness and pain  
To dig the clumsy boulders from the mould;  
Piled them in ordered rows again,  
Fitting them firm and fast,  
A monument to last  
Long after his own harried day was past.  
He cleared the rocky soil for corn and  
grain  
By which his children throve

## THE WALL

To carry on the race.

We live by his life-giving.

I see each stone, rough like his granite face —

Uncompromising, stern, no slave to love,

Dowered with little grace,

Grim with the hard, unjoyful task of living;

But strong to stand the wrath of storm and time,

And bolts that heaven lets fall.

Built of a patriot's prime —

How well I love the wall!

## HAMPTON TOWN

THE Hampton marshes to the sea  
Stretch out a colored tapestry;  
A woven, iridescent gleam,  
Patterned with many a sea-filled stream,  
Where dips the heron silently.

Above the Hampton meadows soar  
Wisps of a quaint, forgotten lore,  
Wild legends of another day,  
Sea-born and salty, like the spray  
Flung from the great tusks of the Boar.

And as I wander down the street  
Of Hampton Town with loitering feet,  
A fragrance breathes from gardens old,  
Drawn from the centuries of mould,  
Thyme, bleeding-heart, and bitter-sweet.

The ghosts of lovely ladies rise,  
With terror in their haunted eyes;

## *HAMPTON TOWN*

Witches and redskins, soldiers grim;  
Pirate and Puritan — oath and hymn —  
All in a web whose threads I share.

The Hampton pines these legends know,  
And gossip them in whispers low.  
They spin an eerie charm that twines  
About the lovely Place of Pines,  
To blood that throbs from long ago.

## THE OLD GARDEN

I CHANCED upon the little bowered retreat  
For the first time, and never shall forget  
The spell of tangled mystery! The wet  
Bejeweled leaves like fingers curled to meet  
My childish hand; the unimagined sweet  
Of briar, heliotrope, and mignonette;  
The tang of box, and quainter blossoms set  
By mazy paths for liliputian feet.

High walls of hollyhock and morning-glory  
Concealed the ancient house with gables wide;  
Shut out the world of swift and merry hours.  
In the long silence of a fairy-story  
My heart stood still. Then, at a turn I spied  
My Mother, smiling at the other flowers.

## GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE

GRANDMOTHER's house is far away.  
You take the train and you ride all day,  
Till you come to a meadow beside the sea,  
As green and still as a place can be.

In a little white room is a little white bed;  
The pillow is sweet where you lay your head;  
And all around is the scent of rose,  
That breathes wherever Grandmother goes.

Down in the meadow the crickets trill  
As if they thought it was daytime still;  
“*Cheep! Cheep! Cheep! Cheep!*  
*Cheepy, cheepy! Cheep! Cheep!*”  
Oh, how can a body go to sleep?

All alone you lie and hark  
To the curious sounds that come in the dark;  
For the wall says “*Crick!*” And the floor  
goes “*Creak!*”  
Then out in the hall is a rustle and squeak.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

A wee voice cries and is still again;  
Then Something taps on the window-pane.  
There's a whispering in the tree outside,  
And a sigh, that Grandmother *says* is the tide.

Grandmother's house is nice by day,  
But at night you seem very far away.  
And the noise of the quiet is so loud,  
It bothers you more than the noise of a  
crowd.

## GRANDMOTHER'S GARDEN

THIS was the garden that Grandmother made,  
Here in the filtering sunlight and shade.  
Here grew the delicate, old-fashioned posies,  
Columbine, larkspur, cinnamon roses,  
Balsam and lavender, briar and box,  
Pale mignonette and chintz hollyhocks;  
Neatest of paths for the tiniest feet,  
Wandering, wavering, all through the sweet.  
And there, quite the prettiest blossom of all,  
Mother went tiptoeing when she was small.

This is the garden that Grandmother made —  
New buds to open as older ones fade.  
With her wee waterpot making the showers,  
*My* mother dallied with *her* mother's flowers;  
Quaint little figure with cheeks like a rose,  
Starched pantalettes and slippers with bows;  
Bonny brown hair and a bonnet of straw,  
And the merriest eyes that the sun ever saw.  
But for Grandmother's garden and all that  
    was in it,  
Why, where should *I* be this blessed minute?

## THE FRIGHTENED PATH

THE wood grew very quiet  
As the road made a sudden turn;  
Then a wavering, furtive path crept out  
From the tangled briar and fern.

“Where does it lead?” I asked the child;  
She shivered and shook her head.  
“It does n’t *lead* to any place,  
It is running away!” she said.

“It is running away on tiptoe  
Through the untrodden grass,  
To join the cheerful highroad,  
Where real, live people pass.

“It runs from a heap of ruins  
Where a home stood in old days;  
But nothing living goes there now,  
And — Nothing Living stays!”

## DEVIL'S GOLD

### A HAMPTON LEGEND

THE General rolled in a coach-and-four,  
His head held high in pride;  
And Mary, who should have married me,  
Cowered in silk at his side.

The mud of the General's chariot-wheels  
Grimed me, plodding by;  
But I saw a doom on his pallid face,  
And met the fear in her eye.

For well she knew — as I know now,  
As neighbors guessed full well —  
He had sold his soul for a bootful of gold  
To the Devil himself from Hell.

• • • • •  
He called from the hearth of his paneled hall  
To the Fiend on the chimney-crown;  
His jack-boot stood in the chimney-place,  
And the gold came pouring down.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

The gold poured down in a tinkling flood,  
And covered the great hall floor;  
But the General roared to the Devil above—  
“Nay! more! and more! and more!”

For the great jack-boot was never filled  
Till the gold lay three-foot thick;  
The bargainer had cut the toe,  
And fooled the Fiend by the trick.

But the lady shivered in the dark  
At the roar of the General’s mirth;  
While brimstone flashes seared the roof,  
And the Fiend’s wrath shook the earth.

• • • • • • •  
I read in the face of the smitten man  
As he passed me on that day,  
And in the haunted lady’s eye —  
That his hour was near to *pay*.

And when we bore the General’s bier  
To his proud tomb up the road,  
Ten of the sturdiest lads in town  
Staggered beneath the load.

*DEVIL'S GOLD*

Ten of the sturdiest lads in town  
Turned pale as lime-bleached bones  
When their burden dropped and the cover  
loosed;  
The coffin was filled with stones!

My Mary fled from the haunted house  
To toil as a poor man's wife;  
For not one pound of her widow's wealth  
Would I suffer to curse our life.

The only dower she brought away  
Was the terrible tale she told;  
And our children bred in a humble home  
Are marked with the hate of gold.

## THE HAUNTED HOUSE

UPON a little rise it stands alone,  
Dark and forbidding, where three cross-  
roads meet;  
The dim, fierce windows frown upon the  
street  
From walls with mould and mosses overgrown.

Pink hollyhocks group idly at the door,  
And bend above the latch with prying eyes,  
Or shake their heads and whisper, gossip-  
wise,  
Secrets that trouble living hearts no more.

The rusty hinges give a warning scream;  
The jealous panels shudder as they swing.  
About my face the dusty cobwebs cling,  
Soft as the shadow-fingers of a dream.

There is a window looking to the sea;  
The small, cracked panes are blurred as if  
with tears.

## *THE HAUNTED HOUSE*

Here long ago a young bride felt the fears  
That even now creep coldly over me.

Here trembling still she sat, yet made no  
moan,

But felt an unseen presence fill the door,  
And heard a light step steal across the  
floor,

And shrank beneath a touch that chilled her  
own. . . .

Once more I pass the hall, the dim oak stair.

A sudden gust breathes down, a tremulous  
sigh;

A silken rustle lightly whispers by;  
A fragrance as of roses fills the air.

## ROSE PERENNIAL

THE worn gray slab yet lies before  
What once was a thrifty farmer's door;  
Now roofless cellar and scattered stones  
Show skeleton hopes with time-picked bones.  
Here backed against a crumbling wall  
Still blooms at bay, unpruned and tall,  
A soil-disdaining moss-rose bush,  
The delicate buds in faintest flush,  
Clutched by the brambles and woodbine,  
Whose envious fingers tear and twine.

There was the huge barn; here the yard,  
Where the grim farmer labored hard  
From dawn to dark, and never knew  
A dream beyond the crops he grew,  
The stock he raised, the silver store  
Under the loose board in the floor.

To and fro, to and fro,  
The feet of his little wife would go,

## *ROSE PERENNIAL*

All day long and half the night,  
Up a flight and down a flight;  
Pantry to kitchen, pen to barn,  
Cellar to garret with loom of yarn;  
In to the babies, out to the men,  
Down to the pasture and back again.  
Farms were never planned, you find,  
To save the steps of womenkind.

One can trudge and drudge through a long  
life's course,  
If she discover a hidden source  
To seek when the spirit is faint and dry.

Here was her rosebush growing high,  
That he never knew — for he never cared;  
This was her joy no mortal shared.  
Her hands were never too stiff or tired  
To foster beauty the soul desired;  
The first shy green, the venturesome shoot,  
Flushing sap from the sturdy root,  
Moss-veiled bud and passionate bloom;  
Scarlet hips for the winter gloom.

Never too worn the busy feet,  
Never too dull the old heart's beat,  
For a furtive trip to the little shrine  
That made the moment a pause divine.

Here by the bush one glimpsed the Hills,  
Where forests crooned and ran free rills;  
One breathed deep draughts from a wind-  
swept sky,  
Sunset, moonglow, mystery.

This was her rosebush by the wall.  
Gone is the farmer, farm and all;  
Gone herd and crops and silver store.  
The children grown return no more  
To the hearth deserted, the loveless place,  
Haunted by one enduring grace;  
A dream of beauty, torn with briar,  
Clutched in vain as it reaches higher.

## SCARECROW

RAGS and tags of what he was,  
Topped with straw and stuffed with hay;  
Balanced tipsily askew,  
It grins to scare the crows away.

I saw *Him* first in that old hat —  
It seemed the crown of a king to me.  
I liked his careless swagger then;  
Lord! He was straight and fine to see.

He courted me in that same coat —  
He could n't meet it now, I guess.  
That gay vest was the one he wore  
When I walked bride in my silver dress.

He seemed as proud as I, those days.  
I never dreamed, when we were wed,  
I'd think the Scarecrow a better man,  
With a broom for a spine and a pumpkin  
head.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Rags and tags of what he seemed,  
Mocking me in the field all day.  
What can I make a scarecrow of,  
To drive the hungry thoughts away?

## INSPIRATION

LIFE — Death in a drop of dew;  
And a prism to sift a sunbeam through.

Fragile, perfect, briefly bright,  
A tremulous miracle of light;

Beauty poised on a flower-tip;  
A whole round world for a Thrush to sip!

## A WASTED MORNING

I WASTED a morning!

Where? And why?

I let swift hours go silently by,  
As I lay at the foot of an ancient tree,  
And let God's universe talk to me.

Wind and shadow, cloud and bird,  
Spoke each to my heart a musical word.  
The little brown cone that fell on my cheek,  
The squirrel who mocked with an impudent  
squeak,  
The golden mushroom brimmed with death,  
The twin-flower blessing the air with its  
breath;  
Old spider spinning above my head  
A magical dream with her rainbow thread;  
The liliput vases of moss below;  
The sudden caw of a picket crow;  
The rhythmical green of a supple snake  
Quivering into a lair of brake;

### *A WASTED MORNING*

The grumbling bee, the whispering pine —  
What need had they for a word of mine?  
They lived the poem; they wove the spell  
No tongue could utter, no phrases tell;  
And a human voice could but disgrace  
The eloquent stillness of the place.

So I lay at the foot of the ancient tree,  
And let God's free verse sing to me.

## CIPHERS

Oh, to be a wonder-child  
And read the cipher of the wild!

A starry-splintered alphabet  
In the ancient rocks is set,  
Spelling, if one held the key,  
All creation's history.  
Cryptic messages I trace  
Etched on many a flower-face;  
Graven symbols score the pines,  
The birches wear mysterious signs —  
Perhaps the wistful diary  
Of the Dryad in her tree.

On the open page of snow  
Curious hieroglyphics show,  
Dots and dashes, twist and thrust,  
Carven in the crystal crust;  
Marks of furred and feathered things  
With furtive feet or startled wings —

## *CIPHERS*

Comic secrets of the dark,  
Silent tragedy and stark.

Ciphers, ciphers everywhere,  
In the sky, the wave, the air!  
On the faces that one meets  
Adrift upon the eddying streets;  
On the near and dear, that change  
With lines inscrutable and strange —  
Palimpsests that time has wrought  
With the signs of hidden thought,  
Dreams unguessed and griefs unsaid,  
Passionate yearning unbetrayed.

Ah, could Love but find and own  
Nature's old Rosetta Stone!

## PINE MUSIC

A HUNDRED years I seek the stars  
Through tempest, heat, and cold;  
My body scarred by many scars,  
My spirit wisely old.

Yet the eternal song I sing,  
From sun and shadow made,  
Is lisped as sweetly every spring  
By the least flowers that fade.

## MAIDS AND MUSHROOMS

ODDLY fashioned, quaintly dyed,  
In the wood the mushrooms hide;  
Rich and meaty, full of flavor,  
Made for man's delicious savor.  
  
But he shudders and he shrinks  
At the piquant mauves and pinks.  
Who is brave enough to dare  
Curious shapes and colors rare,  
Dainties in peculiar dresses,  
Fairy-rings and inky messes?  
Something sinister must be  
In the strange variety.  
It is better not to know;  
Safer but to peer — and go.

So the mushrooms dry and fade,  
Like full many a blooming maid,  
With her dower of preciousness  
Hid too well for men to guess.

*MAIDS AND MUSHROOMS*

But the toadstools bright and yellow  
Tempt and poison many a fellow,  
With their flaunting beauty bright,  
The bold promise of delight.  
Taste and suffer, ache and burn;  
Generations do not learn!

Nay, a little mushroom study  
Would not injure anybody.

## IN THE DARK

IN the dark I lie and think  
    Of the glory in a day;  
Of the sunshine and the shade,  
    All the color soft or gay.

I can see it better now  
    As I lie with curtained eyes.  
Oh, the rainbow and the moon;  
    Oh, the opal of the skies!

How the poppies glow and thrill,  
    How the pigeon-feathers shine!  
I will weave them into dreams,  
    I will make them ever mine.

All the wonder of a wave,  
    All the magic of a tree—  
I shall wear them in my soul  
    When these eyes no longer see.

## GARDEN THOUGHTS

SOME of us are roses,  
Some of us are weeds;  
All of us began in clay,  
Silent little seeds.

Some of us are flaunting,  
Some of us are shy;  
All of us have roots in earth,  
Faces to the sky.

Some give joy by living,  
Some leave fragrance, dead;  
Thorns and spines and ugliness  
May yield balm or bread.

Twisted, seared and stunted,  
Radiant, sweet and glad;  
Who shall say that one is “good”  
And another “bad”?

## THE PASSER-BY

IN the fragrant, moonlit night,  
Without a thought of fear,  
I wakened in my seaward room  
And felt a Presence near.

The open window glowed,  
And suddenly I knew  
That Some One was out walking  
Above the summer dew.

The tall pines held their breath,  
And the little cedar trees,  
With all the grasses in the field,  
Were kneeling on their knees.

Beyond the dunes the sea  
Was like a silver floor,  
For Some One's holy feet to cross  
Out of a foreign shore.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Then lo! Above the trees  
A halo, round and bright!  
No more I saw of One who passed  
All silent in the night.

## FROST

HARK to a call in the late September night,  
From the little garden-close crying—crying!  
As the cold stars watch from their safe, un-  
troubled height,  
Faintly breathes the scented prayer —  
“Help! We are dying!”

Who would invade the sisterhood of flowers,  
In their cloistered innocence fresh and  
gently gay?  
What so cruel foe would dare profane the  
hours,  
To fright the tender sleeping buds and  
steal their peace away?

Hark! The wistful cry again! Wafted o'er  
the grasses  
Comes the trembling fragrance, a sigh from  
hearts of gold.

Something sly and sinister in the shadow  
passes;

Shivering draw the covers close, the blood  
runs cold!

Lo, in the morning, the bleak and hoary  
morning,

Desolate the garden where the white foe  
crept;

Wall or moat no bar to him, come without a  
warning,

Capturing the pretty ones helpless where  
they slept.

Cruel was the touch of him, blighting was his  
breath,

Beauty shrank before him, but found no  
place to hide.

Fragile, piteous martyrs coldly done to death,  
Was there none to answer when your sweet

souls cried?

## WINTER SONG

BECAUSE I sang in April  
With magic in the air,  
Must I be sad and silent now  
When winter boughs are bare?

My heart is not a songster  
That waits upon the spring,  
But while there is a blessed sky  
And friendly earth, I sing!

For evergreen my joy is,  
Like any cedar tree;  
It makes a tune of ice and snow  
And whispers it to me.

## TANAGER

SCARLET BIRD!

Whence have you fluttered into my green  
gloom,

My sleepy solitude, on quiet wing,  
Your voice unheard?

Why do you linger there upon the tree,  
And still forbear to sing,  
As if your message were a silent doom?

O torch of fire;  
Enkindled at the flame of heart's desire,  
In some enchanted land! O wingèd rose,  
Blown from the living garden of delight!

O flash of joy  
Deliriously bright,

Escaping from the heart of some fierce boy,  
Or girl who thrills and glows!

O dream incarnadine  
Out of the jeweled past; red rapture that was  
mine!

Why sent to torture me?

*TANAGER*

You cut the shadow like an open wound;  
The forest bleeds with your intensity,  
In a mysterious anguish unrelieved by sound.

And when you flit away,  
Back to your radiant realm, your vivid day,  
And shivering I shall gaze  
Down the dim alley empty of your blaze,  
The darkness will be darker evermore,  
The silence stiller than it was before.  
Then faded peace will brood —  
A moment stirred  
In the transfigured wood,  
O scarlet bird!

## SONG

Oh, yes, I love you still, my lad,  
For that is woman's way;  
A whole life long of tenderness  
For the fancy of a day.

I gave you golden loyalty  
And starry faith to wear.

You gave me pearls that were my tears,  
And silver in my hair.

You gave me something less than good,  
I gave the best I had.  
But yes — the man I thought you were,  
I love him still, my lad.

## THE KNOCK

DID you knock at the door, my Dear?  
Knock, and I fail to hear?

Was I so eager to bind my hair,  
And fasten a flower to make me fair;  
Study a book that I might be wise,  
Or make you a song for a sweet surprise?

Mixing a cake,  
Saying a prayer,  
All for your sake,  
All for your care —

So busily happy I did not hear  
When you knocked, my Dear!

Will you pass to another door,  
And knock at my own no more?

Shall I listen and wait and long,  
No more laughter, no more song?

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

But still with the faded rose in my hair,  
Still on my lips the tremulous prayer;  
    Till the fire goes out  
        To a single spark,  
    Ending the doubt;  
        And in empty dark,  
Shall I sit and hear  
The knock, knock, knock of my heart? My  
    Dear!

## AN OLD-WORLD CONVENT GARDEN

WALLED quiet from the din,

So near, of worldly strife;

A cloistered peace within,

A life apart from life.

Shrines bowered in roses sweet,

And in a hidden dell

Worn by accustomed feet,

A holy well.

Along the ancient wall

Fruit basking in the sun;

Flowers radiant and tall —

A coquette every one.

Bees busy on the stalks,

Birds mating in the weeds —

Here a pale Sister walks,

Telling her beads.

High walls to shut aside

The world's dear bliss and care!

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

O Birds, your nestlings hide  
In sanctuary there.  
High walls to her, to me —  
But ah! to wings, how low;  
Blest little Birds, quite free  
To come — and go!

A SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY IN  
BRITTANY

FOR C. N. B.

WHO counts the foolish years?

This Brittany of ours,  
With all her gathered hopes and fears,  
Her scroll of smiles and tears,  
Is young, amid her sweet, perennial flowers.

About the lone, deserted shrines  
Carol melodious songsters of to-day;  
Weaving their modern spell  
Through Carnac's mighty lines

The sun-burned children play,  
Knowing, perchance, the ancient secret well.

Above the buried Ys,  
Stout fishers in their rainbow shallops ply;  
Gazing into the azure depths they sigh,  
Dreaming of fair Dahut, and brighter realms  
than this,  
Longing to feel her kiss.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

But homely love is waiting them ashore;  
Soon they will sigh no more.

Joy of the present, full of light and life,  
Faith of the future years, with promise  
rife —

Belovèd of the sea,  
How young is Brittany!

Who marks the months' retreat?

It is not fall when roses are abloom,  
When strawberries are sweet,  
And snowy, great magnolias breathe per-  
fume.

This bright September day,  
With radiant sky and balmy airs at play,  
Renewing joy in every living thing,  
Is Spring! Is Spring!

And so with you, dear Mother! Heart of  
youth,

Wise in your dreaming, soul of mystery,  
Tender in faith and truth.

Lo, in your gentle hands you hold the key  
Of Spring eternal, of the spirit's prime;

*SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY IN BRITTANY*

You make a slave of time.  
With his malicious fears,  
And as this *spring* day brightly  
Clasps like a gem the threaded years  
You wear so lightly,  
Who shall seek to sum them,  
Admiring still how sweetly you become  
them?

*Vitré*  
September 3, 1913

## THE BLAZED TRAIL

JUST when the path is lost to me,  
    Bewildered wanderer in the maze,  
Upon some unexpected tree  
    I spy the Woodman's blaze;

A mystic rune of sight or sound,  
    A message quick from sense to soul,  
That lifts the spirit from the ground  
    And speeds it to the goal.

A wind-flower nodding by an oak  
    Has given assurance from afar;  
Once in the dark a fragrance spoke,  
    And once it was a star.

The silver fluting of a thrush;  
    The bursting of a sunken flame;  
A sigh of wind, a sudden hush —  
    Out of the depths I came.

*THE BLAZED TRAIL*

A burning challenge to despair  
    Flashed from an idly-open book;  
A small dumb creature's silent prayer,  
    A friend's revealing look;

And all the doubtful horrors fade,  
    The weary heart leaps up again.  
Through tangled thickets in the shade,  
    The Trail shows broad and plain.

## BUT THERE ARE WINGS

“How big it is, the Blueness everywhere!”  
Between two seas, her playtime scarce begun,  
Trembles the shy, bewildered little one.  
Above her roll the shoreless depths of air  
Reflected in her azure eyes; and there  
Close to her feet in thunderous fury run  
The crowding waters, peacock in the sun,  
That fling a salty threat upon her hair.

“But there are wings!” They brood against  
the sky,  
A cloudy wonder; while upon the deep  
She sees them dip and flutter, far and near.  
“The same kind wings that shelter one  
asleep!”  
So, drawing reassurance in a sigh,  
She digs the treacherous sand without a fear.

## SAFE?

If I but set my casement high  
Where none peer in at me,  
I shall look only at the sky  
And the fair top of the tree.

I shall forget the sorry things  
The swallows do not tell;  
I shall not see the wounded wings  
Of the little bird that fell.

And if below there crawls a road,  
Where dusty travelers go,  
Groaning beneath a weary load —  
Why, I shall never know.

I can pretend there is no sin,  
No pain and misery,  
If I gaze out where none look in  
To read the heart of me.

## THE UP-HILL STREET

THERE'S a lane through grassy meadows,  
    There's a turnpike to the sea,  
There's a trail across the mountain  
    Which is very dear to me.  
There's a shady, quiet roadway  
    On the border of the town;  
There are footpaths going blithely  
    Up the little hills and down.  
And oh! I love the highroads  
    My happy feet have pressed.  
But walk at evening, walk at morn,  
    There's one I love the best.

It is a narrow city street  
    That clammers with a will  
Between two ragged cliffs of brick  
    Upon a windy hill.  
I see it from my window,  
    I watch it every day  
Slope to the level sky-verge  
    Whereon it melts away;

## THE UP-HILL STREET

While etched across the picture  
Stands straight and strong and tall,  
The oak tree that I planted  
When I was very small.

Above, a narrow sky-way  
The houses frame for me;  
Beyond, across the city —  
Though I can hardly see —  
I know the blue bay opens,  
With towering blocks between;  
I feel, I smell, I hear it  
When winds blow east and keen!  
And I have dwelt here always;  
A child I saw it climb,  
The quaint, forgotten byway,  
Unmarked by change or time.

How often have I trod it!  
Each brick and stone I know!  
Each little rise and hollow  
Though hidden under snow.  
And looking from my window  
I almost think to see

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

A childish figure climbing —

The little shade of Me.

But as I watch her, smiling —

The child who once was I —

My Fancy climbs the little hill

And merges in the sky.

## CITY SMOKE

Oh, the smoke of the city!  
Pouring in columns black and thick;  
Swooping, a nightmare bird of prey,  
From a hideous eyrie of iron and brick,  
Obscuring the day;  
Sinister, greasy, noisome, vile,  
Spoiling the delicate, fouling the pure,  
Creeping like sorrowful sin or guile  
Through tiniest cranny and lock secure.  
The rosiest chamber reeks with its breath,  
And the dens already besmirched with death.  
It broods impartial, sullying all,  
Palace, tenement, hovel and hall;  
Beauty's ruin and Nature's ban,  
Price of the fierce, packed struggle of man.  
Grim smoke hovering without pity,  
Over the city.

Oh, the smoke of the city!  
Rising and rolling a magical stream,  
Spreading and wavering higher and higher;

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Bright with the opaline colors of dream,  
A torrent of beauty, a cloud of desire.  
Delicate gossamer rags float free,  
Drifting into eternity,  
Washed with radiance, purged and clean,  
All-escaping, ethereal, new;  
Vision of poets sublime, serene,  
Etching the blue;  
Life transfigured by hope again,  
Prize of the dear, near loving of men.  
Glorified smoke, like a halo of pity,  
Over the city.

## GREEN CROSSES

AT the back of the pompous houses,  
Above the beautiful river-way,  
A row of squalid barrels  
Blush at themselves in the morning light.  
From one grotesquely leaning,  
Dusty and scarred  
Amid the dead, forgotten slag and ashes,  
A fir-tree thrusts its live, protesting fingers —  
Crosses of green.  
About it still cling a few silver cobwebs,  
Rags of its brief splendor.  
It was the Christmas Tree  
That graced the cheerful drawing-room  
A little while;  
That blessed the comfortable house with its  
fragrance,  
And with its symbols of love,  
The small green crosses.  
  
A pinched, pale child with hungry eyes,  
Ragged and wolfish, but with wisps of glory

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Still haloing her hair,  
Comes with her bag of rubbish.  
Her eyes brighten;  
She sets down her heavy burden,  
She forgets the cold as she picks at the little  
tree,  
Plucks eagerly at the fragile cobwebs;  
They are so silvery few!  
But they do not go into the heavy sack.  
Her thin, blue fingers snap one of the green  
crosses;  
She twists the tinsel thread about it,  
And sticks it in her breast.  
Then she shoulders her bundle of trash,  
And stumbles away, smiling.

The green crosses, alive in the dust!  
The Christmas Tree!  
The evergreen tree whose roots are cut —  
On the dump it will die!

The Christmas Tree!  
What if this ornament of brief holidays,

## *GREEN CROSSES*

This plaything of a favored few,  
This strong, slow-murdered creature of pure  
woods,  
With its green crosses,  
Were really growing!  
If it were rooted in the hearts  
Of Christendom!  
How different a world would see this sunny  
morning!  
No war; no hate;  
No want nor selfishness;  
No ragged children, starved for tinsel joys,  
Furtively clutching at rejected beauty  
On a forgotten cross,  
The green cross of Love.

## THE MYSTIC CIRCLE

EIGHT lusty bell-ringers  
In the loft of the campanile;  
Eight quick-eyed, firm-muscled, clean-lipped  
    lads,  
Forming a mystic circle,  
Poised a-tiltœ,  
Hands above heads,  
Waiting.  
Eight stout ropes mysteriously pending  
From the unrevealing, dusty rafters.  
The bells are poised for the peal,  
Though they remain unseen,  
Waiting.

The magic word is spoken by the leader —  
“*She’s off!*” (The unmistakable English  
    accent.)

The treble bell gives signal first,  
The racing merry scales descend.  
The cue is flashed from eye to eye;

## THE MYSTIC CIRCLE

The Bob-major double,  
An intricate combination of sequences,  
A miracle of mathematics resolved into  
sound;  
A psalm of joy!  
While the sturdy arms pull in ordered eager-  
ness,  
And the bright eyes shine.

The Bells!  
Their tongues are loosed.  
The charm of the mystic circle has made  
them animate,  
Has lifted the enchantment of silence  
And given sound to their joy.  
In the tower above the young men,  
(So near, unseen,)  
They shout till the rafters ring;  
A revel of frank, untrammelled spirits,  
Like innocent children with clear, full voices,  
Merry, unrestrained, irresponsible.  
A somersaulting group of eight,  
Praises God in mirth.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Still farther above,  
High in the vault of the church,  
Revealed in ethereal, vibrating overtones,  
Like the whirring of great wings,  
The heavenly choir chanting Te Deum  
Join in the song;  
The Angels of the Bells,  
Tender intermediaries between earth and  
heaven,  
Breathing holy gladness, singing ineffable  
praise.

Above, above again,  
Far above the pointed spire,  
Above the seething city and the sinning world,  
Above the singing in the hearts of men,  
The clamor of bells, the choiring of angels —  
Silence.  
The eternal harmony of all sound,  
The caught-up commingled praises of cre-  
ation,  
Blended into quiet,  
The Silence that is God:

*THE MYSTIC CIRCLE*

God listening; God approving; God the Father  
of Joy,  
Blessing His angels and His bells,  
Blessing the ringers with rapt faces,  
Tense, devotional,  
Who consummate the ritual of sound  
In a religious office.

Eight young men  
In a mystic circle,  
Whose center is the center of the universe,  
God.

## SONG OF THE BOOKWORM

Who would long for wings to wander  
Over sea or mountains yonder?  
Who would hang on risky pinion,  
And become the breezes' minion,  
When the spirit, birdlike, hovers,  
Borne between two leathern covers?  
These are wings a fay might sigh for,  
Or a chubby cherub cry for!

So the dusty Bookworm quivers  
Into life; the cocoon shivers,  
Bursts into a world of glory,  
Borne on tinted wings of story,  
Poesy, romance or fairy —  
Wings of book-leaves thin and airy;  
Floats and flutters off, away,  
To Avonside or far Cathay.

There is no land so strange, so far,  
From pole to pole, from star to star,

*SONG OF THE BOOKWORM*

But he may visit passage free,  
No duty, fare or grudging fee.  
Hey for Egypt! Ho for Arden!  
Mowgli's jungle, Omar's garden!  
None shall limit, none can stay,  
When the Bookworm flits away!

## THE BOOKS I OUGHT TO READ

ON dusty shelves in serried ranks they stand,  
Reproachful thousands, quaint, and grave  
and great.

My guilty conscience hears their mute com-  
mands,  
Yet day by day — they wait.

Their army grows more deadly every year;  
Their captain-names I cannot call to mind.  
A friend amid the order would, I fear,  
Be very hard to find.

But to a corner shelf by most forgot,  
I steal, and to my conscience pay no heed,  
With boon companions dear. Yet these are  
not  
The books I ought to read!

## JOHN TOWNSEND TROWBRIDGE

FEBRUARY 12, 1916

WIZARD of youth! How many years,  
Since first we felt the story-spell,  
Your name has thrilled the childish ears  
That knew your magic well.

Dear noble head of snowy hair,  
Face with the sunglow; keen, kind eyes;  
Presence erect and debonair,  
Heart generous and wise.

No more our Poet walks the land!  
Your mellow voice no more is heard.  
Oh, for the warm clasp of your hand,  
The friendly, precious word!

But in the hearts whose love you share,  
In countless friends you never met,  
In the world's childhood everywhere  
Your life is singing yet.

*JOHN TOWNSEND TROWBRIDGE*

Your merry quips; your thought's pure gold;  
Your knightly quest and champion cry;  
The songs you sang, the tales you told —  
Their echoes do not die.

They make a part of what we are,  
Of all the best we think and do.  
The land you loved is better far  
Because her youth loved you!

## THE JOY-VENDER

GIOVANNI CARBONE, lame and old,  
Has a struggling bunch of balloons to hold;  
Balloons like giant, luscious grapes,  
With shiny skins and the roundest shapes.  
They dodge and tug to get away,  
Like children, peevish at control.

Early and late the patient soul  
Smiling and nodding keeps his stand,  
On a corner where the breezes play,  
And the child-parade goes by each day;  
For windmills whirl in his other hand.  
Petaled windmills of every hue  
Known to his native, opal land,  
Busily, dizzily whiz and whir,  
Making rosettes of rainbow blur,  
Too bewildering to be true.  
Giovanni guards the corner well;  
A kindly wizard, ready to sell  
For a tiny bit of sordid money  
A gaudy joy, when the day is sunny.

Flimsy joys! Just pretty toys,  
Fragile and useless anywhere;  
Except to little girls and boys  
Empty and meaningless as air!

How babies love the foolish things!  
Their chubby, mittened hands they reach,  
Pout rosy lips in lisping speech,  
Coaxing the wizard with wrinkled face  
To part with his treasure,  
The joys that have wings.  
He is willing enough, for a nickel or two —  
And what is a nickel to me or you?  
He grins and nods with an artist's grace,  
Pleased with the little ones' guileless pleas-  
ure.

He airily pockets the proffered pence,  
Tethers his wares to the iron fence.  
With gentle fingers he ties the strings  
To proud small buttons; he thrusts a wand —  
A fairy wand — in a baby hand.

“*Va bene!*”

Off to a Wonderland!

*THE JOY-VENDER*

Giovanni Carbone! No wonder you grin,  
With your burning eye set in parchment  
skin;

Purveyor of dreams for the innocent;  
Maker of laughter rather than pain;  
Vender of perfect, rounded content.

I envy you again and again  
Your job and your bit of wonder-money,  
And your breezy stand, when the day is  
sunny.

## THE SPARROW

LITTLE bird of dusty brown,  
Why do you stay here in town,  
In the noise and dirt and heat  
Hopping in the ugly street?  
Other songsters choose to go  
Where the grass and clovers grow,  
Where the dew is on the hill  
And the shady woods are still;  
Where the baby rivers skip,  
And the cool green mosses drip.  
There to-morrow I shall be!  
Sparrow, do you envy me?

Saucy bird, alert and quick,  
Lingering on stone and brick —  
Little children linger too,  
Who perhaps are fond of you;  
Pale and pitiful to see,  
Sick and sorry too, maybe.  
They can dream, but never stray  
Where the ferns and daisies play.

*THE SPARROW*

All the sultry summer through  
They will hear no bird but you,  
Cheap and common, sharp and shrill,  
Chirping, chirping, chirping still,  
Picking bugs and crumbs and things.  
Yet — you have the gift of wings!  
They can see you dart and fly  
Free and high to tree and sky —  
Only little comrade given  
Who can bring them news of heaven!

Sparrow, though I run away,  
Is that why you choose to stay?

## SYLVIA

SYLVIA is always gay.  
When she winged to earth one day,  
Through the wonders of the sky,  
She caught a star as she flew by,  
Green and gold and amethyst,  
In her tiny baby fist,  
And hid it in her little breast  
As a secret unconfessed.

Like a jeweled lantern she  
Shines for all the world to see.  
In her eyes the sparkle beams,  
From her burnished hair it gleams;  
Radiant all she does and says,  
All her pretty, twinkling ways —  
Just because she dared to leave  
Lifetime with a bit of heaven.  
Sylvia! Without your spark,  
Oh, the journey would be dark.

## THE PLUME

“HERE is a gift,” the Brownie said,  
As something fell on the little maid’s head —  
“A golden feather with silver bars  
Of the Faraway Bird who sings to the stars;  
A beautiful plume to use as you will,  
Fortunate friend on top of the hill!  
Fasten it into your curly hair;  
Love will follow and find you fair.  
Put it into the Magi’s hands;  
They will pay you with gold and lands.  
Feather a shaft with the magic thing,  
And bring down Fame with a crippled wing.  
Other wonders the plume can do,  
But I would n’t bother, if I were you!”

Now the queer little maid on top of the hill  
Clipped the plume to a scratchy quill —  
The golden feather with silver bars  
Of the Faraway Bird who sings to the stars!  
She wrote and wrote, all night, all day,  
The curious things it made her say —

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Wonder-tales and whimsical rhymes,  
Faraway deeds from faraway times,  
Told for the clamorous boys and girls,  
With bangs and braids, with clips and curls.  
The children laughed and clapped and cried —  
“Tell it again! Tell more beside!”  
Then the queer little maid was proud and glad,  
And this was the good of the gift she had —  
The magical plume of the Faraway Bird.

But the Brownie sighed, for never a word  
To the busy house on the hilltop came  
Of flattering love, or wealth, or fame.

## THE WOODSY ONES

HEAR them creeping, creeping, creeping,  
through the mosses and the brush,  
The Woodsy Ones whom I can never see!  
Now they snap a twig and falter,  
now they laugh and whisper “Hush!”  
As they dodge their little heads behind a  
tree.

Hear them dancing, dancing, dancing,  
in the grass when I’m abed,  
And singing at my window in the moon!  
Oh, the fairy music bubbles  
in my dizzy little head,  
And I drift away to Nothing all too soon!

## THE WEE KNITTER

*Click! Click! Click!*  
Hark to the needles knitting fast  
    Of the wee Knitter in the sun.  
Over the fairy finger-tips are cast  
    Gossamer threads by an old witch-  
        spider spun  
In her den at the heart of a flower  
In a moonlit hour.

*Click! Click! Click!*  
The wee small Knitter is all in green,  
    With thistledown hair,  
And petal-shoon on her silver toes  
    That she swings in the air,  
From her perch on a tremulous rose,  
Knitting unseen.

*Click! Click! Click!*  
The slender needles of the pine  
    Flash spicy fragrance as they go,  
To and fro,

## THE WEE KNITTER

In the sweet sunshine,  
Knitting a secret few can know,  
Of magical meshes none may spy  
With a mortal eye.

*Click! Click! Click!*  
A fairy laugh rings clear and wild,  
As eagerly the needles knit,  
Knot by knot and bit by bit,  
A purse invisible to hold  
Not gold —  
But a bit of luck for a human child.

Do you hear, do you hear, O Fortunate  
One,  
The wee small Knitter in the sun?  
*Click! Click! Click!*

## A CHARM SAID UNDER AN OAK

*Deus Robur Meus.*

OAK, with thy straightness,

Oak, with thy wholeness,

Oak, with thy brightness,

Hearten me! Aid me!

Rooted in passionate earth,

Crowned in ethereal blue,

Breathing ineffable love,

Shelter me! Shade me!

With thy sweet strength,

With thy cool peace,

With thy green joy,

Touch me and thrill me!

Spirit of patience,

Spirit of courage,

Spirit of wisdom,

Cover me! Fill me!

Balm-giving oak,

Force-giving oak,

*A CHARM SAID UNDER AN OAK*

Self-giving oak,  
Inspire and elate me!  
Lovely green tree of life,  
Happy tall tree of hope,  
Holy great tree of good,  
Oh, consecrate me!

*Deus Robur Meus.*

## FAIRY RING

I STEPPED within the fairy ring,  
Where it was green, so green.  
Then I heard the trill of a fairy bell,  
And the song of the Fairy Queen.

The secret that she murmured me,  
To the trill of the fairy bell,  
Was sweet, so sweet you'd not believe,  
If I should try to tell.

But step you too in the fairy ring,  
And hold fast to my hand;  
Then we may hear a lovelier thing,  
And both will understand.

## DANGEROUS PASSING

Who ventures to the Magic Wood?

Who dares the moonlit way,  
Full perilous in the silver flood,  
Though safe enough by day?

Who brushes through the mystic dew  
To hear the flute of Pan,  
And spy upon our dancing crew?  
Beware, O Maid, O Man!

The Wee Folk lurk behind the trees  
And ambush in the fern;  
Our mischief whispers in the breeze —  
Ye Trespassers, return!

Enchanted, each to each shall seem  
Transfigured and divine;  
Your faces with strange beauty gleam,  
Your lips hold maddening wine.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

You shall forget for what you seek;  
Careless of all about,  
Hand clasped to hand and cheek to cheek,  
Sport for the elfin rout.

We tangle never to be free  
The feet that tread too far.  
Beware the moonlight witchery,  
The magic of a star!

## THE DRYAD

I WAS a Dryad cloistered in a tree,  
Nor knew it for a cell, so close and kind;  
Till some one's careless fingers found the key  
And set me free to sun and sky and wind.

Heigho! The outer world seemed very sweet,  
For all the sunlit mysteries were new,  
The tender little moss caressed my feet,  
I drank of flower-wine and crystal dew.

I heard quaint stories from the birds and bees;  
My cheeks were of the sun's warm kisses  
fain;  
I joined wild frolics with the reckless breeze,  
And mocked the mocking echoes back again.

But when the evening fell and all the world  
Folded to rest without a thought of me,  
With fear a-shiver as the dark unfurled,  
I longed to shelter in the ancient tree.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

The sun has gone and now my heart is cold!  
My friend the breeze, grown weary with his  
play,  
Slumbers upon the flowers; while all the gold  
Has faded from the glory of the day.

O good great Oak, close me within your bark!  
I droop and faint and cannot wander more.  
But though through all the world I search the  
dark,  
I cannot find my cloister's wrinkled door.

O good great Oak, let me not seek in vain  
A helpless Dryad, exiled from her tree!  
Ah, but to feel your clasping strength again  
Between the cruel, careless world and me!

## FAIRY WINE

You from east and I from west  
Both stumbled into Fairyland;  
And there we wandered, blithe and blest,  
Through elfin mazes, hand in hand.

They poured a cup of magic brew  
And laid enchantment on our eyes;  
I thought I read the heart of you,  
You saw me in a fairy guise.

Out of the wonder-hill we came;  
We blinked and stammered, wild and wan.  
For you and I were just the same,  
But lo! the witchery was gone!

So, go your way and I'll go mine,  
You to the west, I to the east.  
But ah, how sweet the fairy wine  
We sipped together at the feast!

## WEBS

Oh, they spread out their silver webs  
Upon the moonlit grass,  
Their wee bright webs of faërie,  
To catch the Dreams that pass.

The wistful dream that stole from me  
And crept away to you,  
They tangled it in glistering knots  
Of witchery and dew.

And whisht! Your bashful little thought,  
So innocent and bright,  
Got trapped in that same silver web  
And kept with mine all night.

Then ah! Whatever shall we do  
Upon to-morrow day,  
Our dreams are snared together so  
And cannot slip away?

## THE FAIRY FORT

As I went by the fairy fort  
I heard a laughing wee voice say —  
“Whisht! Be these humans rale at all?  
I’ll not believe it, nay!”

“Aye, but ye see the crayturs plain?”  
“But seein’ niver makes it true,  
No more that not to see be proof;  
’T is what they think and do.

“They just have faith in what they see,  
And they be blind as midday owls —  
Except the little childher dear,  
And some with childher sowls.

“They chase unrale things all day long —  
Money and aise and fame and power —  
With niver time to pipe and dream,  
Or gossip with a flower.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

“Such stupid things they be, and quare!  
I’ll not believe in them, not I!  
Come, let us pipe a rale, true lilt,  
And lave the crayturs by.”

As I went by the fairy fort  
I heard a piping sweet and small;  
I wonder, are the Wee Folk real,  
Or am I real at all?

PEACE — WITH A SWORD



## PEACE — WITH A SWORD!

“ENSE PETIT PLACIDAM SUB LIBERTATE  
QUIETEM”

*(Motto of Massachusetts)*

PEACE! How we love her and the good she  
brings

On broad, benignant wings!

And we have clung to her, how close and long,  
While she has made us strong!

Now we must guard her lest her power cease,  
And in the harried world be no more peace.

Even with a sword;  
Help us, O Lord.

For us no patient peace, the weary goal  
Of a war-sickened soul;

No peace that battens on misfortune's pain,  
Swollen with selfish gain,

Bending slack knees before a calf of gold,  
With nerveless fingers impotent to hold

The freeman's sword:  
Not this, O Lord!

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

No peace bought for us by the martyr dead  
    Of countries reeking red;  
No peace flung to us from the tyrant's hand,  
    Sop to a servile land.  
Our Peace the State's strong arm holds high  
    and free,  
The "placid Peace she seeks in liberty,"  
    Yea, "with a sword."  
Help us, O Lord!

O Massachusetts! In your golden prime,  
    Not with the bribe of time  
You won her; subtle words and careful ways  
    In perilous days.  
No! By your valor; by the patriot blood  
Of your brave sons poured in a generous flood.  
    Peace, with a sword!  
Help us, O Lord.

Fling out the banners that defied a king;  
    The tattered colors bring  
That made a nation one from sea to sea,  
    In godly liberty.

*PEACE—WITH A SWORD!*

Unsheathe the patriot sword in time of need,  
O Massachusetts, shouting in the lead —

“Peace, with a sword!  
Help us, O Lord!”

## THE CRY

HARK! From the trampled gardens once so fair,  
From hateful trenches in the harried fields,  
From vineyards wasting in polluted air  
Their rich, ungarnered yields,  
There comes the piteous, instinctive cry  
Of soldiers in their lonely agony —  
“Mother!” “Mère!”

Alas! Those bonny yellow heads low-lying!  
Blue anguished eyes — like eyes beloved  
and near!  
Weak, fevered lips with painful effort sighing  
That word of all most dear —  
So like on every tongue, so understood,  
Sign of our common, outraged brotherhood —  
“Mutter!” “Mither!”

They cry to Her — the Pity of the race,  
The fostering Care from which they  
marched afar,  
The Sympathy forsaken, and the grace  
Of Love betrayed by war.

## THE CRY

In this their bitter hour the brave men cry  
To her who bore them, piteously to die —  
“Madre!” “Mat!”

And she at home, the pale, heart-broken  
mother —

She who had nought to do with war and  
strife —

Knows Cain and Abel, brother slaying  
brother!

Sad Eve who gave them life  
Must watch and wait and weep and work,  
and hear

Those kindred voices crying to her ear —  
“Mutter!” “Maman!”

Oh, hearken, human Love! unselfish, high,  
Impartial as the love of mothers good!  
Not vainly died the lads, if their last cry  
Prove us our brotherhood;  
If horror so abound for kindred slain,  
Man ends forever War, the crime of Cain.  
“Mother!”

## CRUSADERS

THEY who have seen the vision,  
We who have dreamed the dream,  
Are comrades of a mighty host,  
Crusaders of the Gleam.

Some lads will fall in battle,  
Some wave victorious swords;  
Some knit the pitying web of love,  
Or forge the glowing words.

Still, shoulder set to shoulder,  
We tread the fields of fate,  
Our hearts invincible to crush  
Truculent ranks of Hate.

And comrade heartens comrade  
Through voids of time and space,  
Flashing the Sign upon his brow,  
A light upon his face.

## THE KNIGHTS

Not dust! Not dust the chivalry,  
The knightly heart of high romance  
Enshrined in ancient poetry.  
Behold, the battle-fields of France!

Gone plume and crest and jeweled sword,  
Gone pomp and picturesque array.  
War is a grim and hideous word!  
Yet heroes walk the world to-day.

A Launcelot or Lion Heart?  
A Roland or a Godfrey bold?  
Nay, simple lads who bear their part  
As gallantly as knights of old.

Our lithe brown legions swinging by,  
Our bonny sailors proudly free;  
The dauntless champions of the sky,  
The dragon-chasers on the sea!

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

A thousand Sidneys pass the cup  
Of blessedness on fields of blood;  
And countless Bayards offer up  
Their joyous hope for others' good.

Never were hearts so nobly bold,  
Nor bodies built so strongly fair.  
The tree of life has not grown old,  
But blooms to-day beyond compare!

No more we glory in the past  
And yearn to see those kings of men.  
The peerless knights arise at last,  
And epic deeds are done again!

## FROM THE CANTEEN

SAILOR, we shall miss you,  
    Swaggering up and down,  
Bringing picaresque romance  
    To the mouldy town.

On your lips a whistle,  
    In your heart a dance,  
A merry lass upon your arm,  
    Mischief in your glance.

Childish in your loneliness,  
    Boyish in your needs,  
But a man in strong desire,  
    A man to do bold deeds.

Fearful tales you told us —  
    Some of them were true;  
Furtive tears were often spilled  
    In the cups we poured for you.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

How we yearned to help you;  
Longed to understand  
The riddle of your restless look,  
The strange lines of your hand.

You brought us pain and vision,  
Bright youth and gallant ways.  
Sailor, we shall miss you  
In the peaceful days!

## CRIPPLED SOLDIER

I MAY have used but half my strength,  
And you but half your mind,  
To help the Cause for which he bled,  
Leaving a limb behind.

You may have stumbled in your task,  
I may have limped and failed.  
But he leaped forth to give his hope,  
Nor once looked back, nor quailed.

We may be scarred with vain regret  
For duties left undone,  
With stiffened limbs and slackened hearts,  
When the great war is won.

Then who will say that he is lame,  
While we are safe and whole?  
Who bears dread wounds for others' sake  
Has the uncrippled soul.

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

And life for him may now begin,  
With a new hope at heart,  
While we, disfigured, face a peace  
In which we won no part.

## THE FLAG TRIUMPHANT

ACROSS my window blow the splendid folds  
Of the great flag hung out for Victory  
And Peace. They gleam through traceries of  
vine

And struggling plants, cherished through four  
grim years

For comfort, now in blossom. Everything  
I see between the flutterings of the flag;  
The unimportant doings in the street,  
The homely houses opposite, the folk  
Carelessly passing; and the flight of doves —  
Peace doves — along a narrow strip of sky.  
I see them glorified by red and white,  
Under a blessed hidden field of stars.

And when I turn away to read or write,  
My eyes are dazzled still by vivid flashes,  
Caught from the floating colors. No escape  
From thoughts of death heroic, life trium-  
phant!

The room is full of red and white reflections.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

The very picture-glasses are aglow  
With patriotic fervor, not content  
To be mere shields for ancient, precious  
things —

Precious for being ancient; they would share  
The pride of present effort. Even shy prisms  
Hung in old candelabra flush and pale  
Alternately, with tremulous, caught emotion.

O Flag of sacrifice and chivalry,  
Never before so dear! Your holy red  
Dyed with the blood of hero-friends; your  
white  
Clear like their vision; and your starry field  
Steadfast with life devotion! Not again,  
I think, shall I look out upon the world  
But through the folds of your eternal glory.  
Flash your fair challenge still across my win-  
dow,  
Flag of my Country!

## THREE GOLDEN STARS

(IN MEMORY OF THREE RADCLIFFE GIRLS  
WHO DIED IN SERVICE ABROAD; RUTH  
HOLDEN, '11; LUCY N. FLETCHER, '10;  
AND HELEN HOMANS)

LUCY, HELEN, RUTH! Sweet names they  
have,

Our brave young soldiers, womanly and  
kind!

Sweet as the glorious youth of heart and  
mind,

The years of promise they so gladly gave.

And they have wound the ribbon of their  
love

About and through the nations sundered  
far,

Drawing them close; each with a golden  
Star

Setting her seal on bonds that time shall  
prove.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

For one, a Briton born and Island bred,  
Chose for America to serve, and bless  
Our wounded with her strength and steadfastness.  
She sleeps in France among her Yankee dead.

One of New England, back to England gave  
The treasure of her wisdom and her skill,  
To use for hapless refugees, who still  
Are weeping by her lonely Russian grave.

And one has won a hero's *Croix de Guerre*,  
"Morte pour La France," so honoring a debt.  
Our sister nation never will forget  
The foreign Saint who gave her soldiers care.

Oh, greater love hath no man shown than  
they,  
The dear, bright spirits with the radiant  
eyes,  
Fearlessly venturing the great emprise,  
Cheerfully pacing down the dolorous way!

*THREE GOLDEN STARS*

So, never deem their golden web unspun,  
Blighted the hope, and lost the precious  
dower!  
For Three have died to speed the blessed  
hour  
When Truth and Love make all the nations  
one.

## THE SPRING OF THE YEAR

ON fields of France the violets are fair,  
The skylarks sing above the broad champaign;  
But where are they who walked and listened  
there,  
The hero-lads our spring finds not again?  
They leave to us who did not share the fight,  
The earth's expectancy of green delight.

Nay! They have journeyed to a sweeter  
bourne,  
Where ghosts of all the garnered springs  
survive,  
With all earth-joys that never will return,  
And all the flowers that ever were alive;  
Where bird-songs that have echoed through  
the years  
Make harmony too sweet for mortal ears.

Oh, what a radiant company are they!  
Forever one with all that's newly fair;

*THE SPRING OF THE YEAR*

Out of the heat and burden of the day,  
The blight of fall and winter's aged care.  
They are Youth's Gladness, ever blossoming  
Beyond the wistful limit of our spring!

## PRAYER FOR AMERICA

O LORD of justice and of right  
Who made the generous Cause prevail,  
Who helped our heroes win the fight,  
Now let not their endeavor fail.  
Facing new dangers that arise,  
Oh, make us wise!

Draw out the best of each to serve  
Unselfishly the common good,  
Nor let the wider vision swerve  
From the true goal of brotherhood.  
To this, thy mighty-blended race,  
Oh, give thy grace!

Give us great leaders we can trust  
To strive for righteousness alone;  
Cast small ambition in the dust,  
With greed and malice overthrown.  
Lord God, Preserver of the State,  
Oh, make us great!

# THE ROCK OF LIBERTY

A PILGRIM ODE, 1620-1920



# THE ROCK OF LIBERTY

A PILGRIM ODE, 1620-1920<sup>1</sup>

## I. VISION

### PRAYER OF SAILING

LORD God of Hosts, Defender of the weak,  
With thine Almighty arm deliver us,  
Thy suffering people, exiled and forlorn,  
Pilgrims of faith, who dream a glorious dream!  
Beyond the deep, where no man knows the  
way,

To savage shores beneath an alien sky,  
Guide us in hope to Liberty and Peace.  
Jehovah! Hearken to thy people's cry!  
Oh, grant us freedom, Lord, within thy law,  
To toil or worship, live or die for Thee,  
In thy name building that which shall endure  
Beyond the little while we have to live.

### THE VISION

O rolling waste of unimagined ocean,  
Dividing continents and parting men!

<sup>1</sup> Copyright, 1920, by the Arthur P. Schmidt Company.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Yield to the fragile sails of destiny,  
Manned by the will that conquers mighty  
force!  
  
Bow to the courage that endures to die,  
The faith that anchors to a solid Rock.  
  
O waves that do divide! The time will come  
When water shall unite the sundered lands.  
Then over sea, under the sea and through,  
Shall fare the galleons of brotherhood,  
Bearing the freight of liberty and love  
From a great nation, heir of our desire,  
To every corner of the peopled earth.

## *THE MAYFLOWER*

O Pilgrims in a cockle frail  
Upon a perilous quest,  
Out of the old world making sail  
    Into the golden west;  
Beyond the misty ocean veil  
    Awaits a Vision blest!

A simple little yeoman band,  
None of the rich or great,

## *THE ROCK OF LIBERTY*

But stout of heart and strong of hand,  
The pioneers of fate;  
The patient builders of a land,  
The founders of a State!

Your fragile bark adventuring  
Upon a fearful sea,—  
Awful the cargo that you bring;  
The seeds of destiny,  
Promise of future harvesting  
In sheaves of liberty.

## *CHORUS OF WOMEN*

The peril of the frozen wave  
Our faith cannot betray;  
Mothers and maidens, be ye brave,  
And teach the babes to pray,—  
“Jehovah! Who art strong to save,  
Guide to Thy chosen Bay!”

Famine and cold and fever come  
To meet us on the shore;  
Labor and want and sorrow, dumb  
For joys we see no more.

## HEART OF NEW ENGLAND

O Lord, give hope in a new home;  
Strength for what lies before!

Yea, though he slay with scourge forlorn,  
We trust Jehovah's will.  
Although the pitying rows of corn  
Hide many a little hill  
Where lie our loved and newly-born;  
Our God is with us still.

### CHORUS OF MEN

No snarling danger in its den  
Can make our courage quail;  
No prowling savage of the fen  
Will turn our color pale,  
Nor treachery of brother men  
Make our endeavor fail.

With freedom are our furrows filled,  
To blossom in the spring.  
To freedom run the roads we build:  
“*Freedom!*” the gray walls sing.  
For **FREEDOM** is the word we willed  
Should through the ages ring!

## II. STRUGGLE

### PSALM

*The Lord is my strength; of whom shall I be afraid?*

*He hath brought me forth into a place of Liberty.  
Oh what great and sore troubles hast Thou showed me,*

*And yet dost Thou quicken me again,  
Yea, and shalt bring me up again out of the deep.  
Thou hast tried me as silver is tried.  
The Lord will give strength to His people.  
The Lord will bless His people with peace.*

### THE CAPTAIN

We who have challenged fate  
To buy the boon of peace,  
Shall we not watch and wait,  
Nor from the vigil cease?

Pray God for strength and trust his word,  
Guarding our treasure with a sword!

We who have burned the past  
Upon an altar fire,

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Will pay our lives at last  
To win the soul's desire.  
Give us our peace! Renew our faith,  
O Lord, to seek it unto death!

### THE ELDER

Come, let us build a temple to God,  
Here in the wilderness, made by our might,  
Set in our midst, the center of life.  
Smite the tall pines that fall with a roar!  
Hew the great logs and heave them in place  
Square is the meeting-house, simple and  
stern,  
Barren of beauty, honestly builded,  
A shield from the arrow that flieth by day,  
A haven from storm and peril of night.  
Slender the spire that points to the sky,  
First one of many to blaze out a path  
Through the wild jungle, lifting men's eyes  
Out of the shadow into the light.  
Old men and maidens, young men and chil-  
dren,  
Enter His house with thanksgiving and praise!

## THE ROCK OF LIBERTY

### PILGRIM MOTHERS

Patter, patter, in and out,  
Go the women's loyal feet.  
Hither, thither, roundabout,  
Late and early hear the beat;  
To the crib, the well, the hay,  
From the kitchen to the loom;  
Treading out a people's way,  
From the cradle to the tomb.

Flutter, flutter, to and fro,  
Busy hands fly out and in.  
Flaxen threads are white as snow,—  
Rough the little hands that spin;  
Drawing out the thread of life,  
Working early, winding late;  
Gentle mother, noble wife,  
Knitting firm a nation's fate.

### PILGRIM FATHERS

Lord of the harvest and the toil,  
Prosper the laborer on thy soil.

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

Steady the shoulder to the plow,  
And let there be no faltering now.  
Our lot is in a goodly land;  
Inspire the heart and steel the hand  
To build a fabric grandly sure  
In righteousness that shall endure!

## **THE CONGREGATION**

Sing to the Lord! Here there shall be  
No leading into captivity,  
And no complaining on our shore.  
But we will guard the lowly poor,  
The little children and the weak,  
And they shall find the prize they seek.

**O Liberty! The corner-stone  
Of a greater hope than men have known!**

### III. ACHIEVEMENT

#### SONS

We have felled the forest and pierced the hill;  
We have scoured the prairie and venture  
still,

Turning the torrent to our behest,  
Sons of the Pilgrims, East and West.

#### DAUGHTERS

We have followed our men to make a home;  
Wherever they fared we dared to come,  
From the mountain top to the river mouth,  
Daughters of Pilgrims, North and South.

#### THE NEW GENERATION

We have builded well by the waterside,  
We have garnered a harvest far and wide,  
Setting our mark from sea to sea,  
Heirs of the Pilgrim liberty.

#### THE ALARUM

Daughters of men, arise!  
Sons of the soil, awake!

*HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

What are the hopes ye prize  
When Freedom is at stake?  
Hark to a warning cry  
Out of the sacred dust;  
Dare all for Liberty,  
Give all to keep the trust!

*“Pray God for strength and trust his word,  
Guarding our treasure with a sword!”*

Arise, O glorious Land,  
And make confusion cease!  
The foes of Freedom stand  
Across the path of peace.  
In loyal might arrayed  
Assail the host of shame.  
Forward! Unafraid!  
In God’s Almighty name!

*“Give us our peace! Renew our faith,  
O Lord, to seek it unto death!”*

America! Be strong!  
Heir of a noble race,

## *THE ROCK OF LIBERTY*

Bear the proud Flag along  
Up to the highest place.  
The road our fathers made  
Is bright as living flame.  
Forward! Unafraind!  
In God's Almighty name!

## THE VISION FULFILLED

O waves that did divide! The time has  
come  
When water shall unite the sundered lands!  
Now over sea, under the sea and through,  
Shall fare the galleons of brotherhood,  
Bearing the freight of liberty and love  
From the great Nation, heir of men's desire,  
To every corner of the peopled earth.

## THE UNION

Lovely is this, the land of our abiding,  
From shore to shore across the leagues of  
freedom,  
From North to South in merciful abundance;  
Land of our heart, America!

## *HEART OF NEW ENGLAND*

The little school, the farmstead, and the  
chapel,  
Type of the treasure that our fathers cher-  
ished,  
Followed the feet that tramped beyond the  
mountains,  
Making thy ways, America!

Out of the East came men in mighty millions,  
Into the savage corners of the country,  
Scattering wide the seed of old tradition,  
Germ of thy power, America!

From deep to deep, from gulf to frozen for-  
est,  
The mountain and the plain have known their  
courage,  
The harbor and the town have seen their  
wisdom,  
Quicken thee, America!

They chained the Titan, Steam, to be their  
servant;

## *THE ROCK OF LIBERTY*

They made the thunderbolt to do their bidding,  
And gave thee Light to be thy living halo,  
Glorious one, America!

The old world turned to thee in time of trouble,  
The people held their empty hands for succor;  
Thy bread and wine of love went forth to feed them,  
Strength of thy strength, America!

Thy Liberty became the hope of nations;  
To Victory thy banner crossed the ocean,  
Borne by the gallant sons of Pilgrim honor,  
Shouting thy name. — “*America!*”

Yet are we humble, mindful of the fathers.  
Not unto us, but unto God the glory,  
Who gave them grace, and made us to inherit  
Their sacred trust, — America!

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.



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